1

2 3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12 13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

21 22

23

24 25

26

27

28

AT SEATTLE FATIMA MOUJTAHID, on behalf of

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

Plaintiffs.

herself and her minor child B.M.,

v.

UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP & IMMIGRATION SERVICES, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. C18-1789RSM

ORDER RE: BRIEFING SCHEDULE ON ISSUE OF THIRD PARTY PROTECTED PRIVACY INFORMATION

This FOIA matter comes before the Court on the parties' joint request for a briefing schedule on the issue of "whether USCIS must produce third party protected privacy information without a waiver that it contends are protected by statute and/or exemption(s), and that Plaintiffs contend is in the public interest because the state litigation is a RICO action against alleged fraudulent practitioners of immigration law." Dkt. #32 at 2. The parties propose a briefing schedule that contemplates cross-motions on a dispositive issue. *Id.* However, the parties have given the Court no clear indication why cross-motions are necessary. The Court believes it would be most helpful to have USCIS brief why it believes this information is privileged and have Plaintiffs respond to these arguments. The Court therefore ORDERS the following briefing schedule:

ORDER RE: BRIEFING SCHEDULE ON ISSUE OF THIRD PARTY PROTECTED PRIVACY INFORMATION - 1

Case 2:18-cv-01789-RSM Document 33 Filed 11/25/19 Page 2 of 2

Defendants' Motion: January 31, 2020 Plaintiffs' Response: February 28, 2020 Defendants' Reply: April 3, 2020 If either party believes that the Court's resolution of this issue disposes of this case, they may move for appropriate relief at that time. DATED this 25 day of November, 2019. RICARDO S. MARTINEZ CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

ORDER RE: BRIEFING SCHEDULE ON ISSUE OF THIRD PARTY PROTECTED PRIVACY INFORMATION - 2